

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Scott Prestage, 42, of Madison, Wisconsin, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge John C. Shabaz to 10 years in prison, without parole, for possessing child pornography -- the maximum possible sentence. This term of imprisonment will be followed by a lifetime term of supervised release. Prestage pleaded guilty to this charge on June 20, 2007.

Prestage received the maximum sentence due to the nature and the amount of images he possessed and because he attempted to delete images from his hard drive prior to it being seized by law enforcement officers.

This case has been brought as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorneys' Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

The charge against Prestage was the result of an investigation conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Elizabeth Altman.

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